



The Maine Farmer.

N. T. THAYER,
S. L. BOARDMAN, Editors.

Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man.

A Chapter on Cats.

We have but little sympathy for cats. They have none for us. Kittens are playful, and furnish a fund of pleasure to small children. Beyond this, a cat is nine times out of ten a nuisance. As soon as they arrive at cathood, they know where the milk is set, while a piece of fresh meat or fish makes them crazy. A neighbor gives us a present of a big trout, because he respects an editor. It is put away, but we could eat it, the cat has lugged it off and made her meal from it. Our meal chest, your grain bin, your beans, are all exposed and often injured by the dirty brute. Some keep a cat because mice and rats are plenty. If a cat happens to bring in a large rat once in six months has the reputation of being a great rat catcher, and yet the rats will scampers from one end of your garret to the other, without being disturbed. A little rat poison is worth forty cents. They will catch all the birds that want to build nests in your trees and shrubbery, and make you feel as though there were no nests; it is the most important crop grown. These are referred to at length in the article to which I referred, to which we can apply to our paper, writing in the same vein.

The numerous preparations and manifolds forms in which mice is fitted for the table, contribute to render it the most various and valuable, as it is with one exception the most abundant article of human food. There is, however, a noticeable difference in the quality of the several varieties of this grain. While the common wheat remains nearly the same in all, the proportions vary in which they are combined, and this fact still further increases its adaptation to the requirements of man and animals.

"For the last half of the year," says the American Agriculturist, "the oil and starch of the corn are better adapted to the wants of the body, than the large amount of gluten in wheat. Corn contains all the elements needed in the body, and in just about the proportion that the body requires in its composition, while they are easily assimilated in water, weather, and taste."

The oil which has been added to the corn, however, might have added with much truth, and making the case still stronger, that the Southern varieties, having a smaller proportion of oil than the corn of the North, and thereby rendered a softer and cooler food than the wheat, which is the case with the oil of the larger amount of vegetable oil in the maize of higher latitudes imparts to it the very quality that it is for the region of its growth. It is found by travelers to the North, that the larger the proportion of oil in the oil, the more nutritious it is.

It is also to the peculiar property of maize that it largely exceeds all other cereals in its value for fattening purposes.

"All judiciously fed with corn meal, and when fed we perceive the same law re-acting itself in the vegetable kingdom. As man advances to the north, he subdues the frost, and if he distracts our songsters. We love to encourage the birds. They do not care to have the frost, but we have the frost, and we have thousands of insects every day. Even the chimney swallows come in for a share of attention, and do sound a chirrup when there are scats from cats. We shall vote cats and kittens a nuisance except where there are babies and—"

Use the Machinery.

Farmers now need much less urging to purchase and use labor-saving machinery than they did a few years ago. Mowing machines were, only a few years since looked upon by the majority of farmers in New England as adapted only to the large level farms of the great West, and as machines that would not come into general use upon our rocky, hilly farms. The large number in use among us shows how rapidly this mistaken notion of their value and usefulness has given way as their merits have become known. Now we farmers only—those cutting from sixty to one hundred tons.

The same is true of all other implements for the saving of labor; they are calculated to benefit the small farmer as well as the large, and will come into general use without a time do without their use, arguing that he "cannot afford it," he will soon find it the part both of wisdom and economy, to avail himself of their benefits. The horse-pitch-fork is one of these, and the farmer cutting from fifteen to twenty tons of hay will find it pay him in a single season to procure one of these implements. They are not to be confined merely to farmers—human strength is as precious to the poor as the rich, and every means for lessening its wear and tear by the aid of machinery, should be employed. We do not know to what extent the potato planter has been used in this State the present spring, but it can be seen from personal knowledge in regard to the "horse hoe"—as it is rapidly increasing among our farmers. During a recent ride into the country, we were not a little surprised to see it used upon a farm where but two or three acres of planting was done. It will not be long before all farmers will use it.

But we have wandered from our subject, for we only took up the pen to urge farmers to employ all the machinery possible in cultivating and harvesting their crops the present season. The horse hoe, mower, horse rakes, and horse pitch-fork have almost wrought miracles in the farmers' work, and made a pastime of severe labor. Farmers should look out in season for what implements of this kind they need, as the demand the present season is likely to be great in view of the large number that will hereafter be wanted for the southern market—and the probable increase in price which will be the result of this increased demand. Money will be saved by buying now.

River Terraces.

What are known as river terraces are very common in Maine. They consist of level surfaces or ridges of sand and gravel at different heights along the banks of rivers. Suppose that the present river were a much higher level than at present, and in the period of the great drainage of the country after the sea was formed, the highest ridges of coarse gravel would be formed on the highest banks of the river. As the river subsided, another terrace would be formed, and when another, and when the river settled down to its level, it would form the present lowest terrace or terrace. A recent visit to Dixfield on the Androscoggin river presented us with a fine view of these terraces. The same may be seen at Mechanic Falls, at Durham, and on the Kennebec and Penobscot rivers. The highest terrace is generally made up of the coarsest gravel, the next is finer, while the lowest intervals are made up of the finest sediment. These terraces are usually of easy culture, and productive with proper cultivation.

DESTROYING CATERPILLARS. A correspondent of the Massachusetts Ploughman contributes to that journal what he calls an "easy, safe, and safe method" of effectively destroying apple tree caterpillars. It is to take a common carpenter's oil, with a slender tapering point, six or eight inches in length, fill with kerosene, breaking open the top of the wad or nozzle, a few drops will instantly kill a nest holding a thousand of small worms. He says he has in this manner been successful in destroying them, and has done no injury to the tree in a single instance.

Indian Corn as Food for Man.

We some time since noticed a food recently published by the Appletons of New York, entitled, "Indian Corn; its Value, Culture and Uses, by Edward Enfield," and have been much interested in its perusal. It contains a great mass of facts, and we only regret that the author had not spent more time in digesting and arranging them, and given us a good index with the volume. However, it is the best work extant on this subject, and we hope it will be extensively read by farmers.

We believe there exists among many, a mistake in regard to the value of Indian corn as an article of food; but an analysis of it proves that it contains in suitable proportions, all the essential and valuable elements required for healthfulness and nutrition. It contains more starch and oil than wheat, and while scarcely inferior to it in nutritive value, surpasses it and other cereals in fattening properties. The point of nourishment—if proper attention is made for the use of this subject, and there are no subtleties, it is well to be on our guard against its approach.

COOPERATION. — We have but little sympathy for cats. They have none for us. Kittens are playful, and furnish a fund of pleasure to small children. Beyond this, a cat is nine times out of ten a nuisance. As soon as they arrive at cathood, they know where the milk is set, while a piece of fresh meat or fish makes them crazy. A neighbor gives us a present of a big trout, because he respects an editor. It is put away, but we could eat it, the cat has lugged it off and made her meal from it. Our meal chest, your grain bin, your beans, are all exposed and often injured by the dirty brute. Some keep a cat because mice and rats are plenty. If a cat happens to bring in a large rat once in six months has the reputation of being a great rat catcher, and yet the rats will scampers from one end of your garret to the other, without being disturbed. A little rat poison is worth forty cents. They will catch all the birds that want to build nests in your trees and shrubbery, and make you feel as though there were no nests; it is the most important crop grown. These are referred to at length in the article to which I referred, to which we can apply to our paper, writing in the same vein.

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Insects Injurious to Fruit Trees.

THE CURCULIO. This enemy to all vines will soon commence its ravages. They may be kept at bay by a few sprays of lime water, or a few drops of oil of turpentine.

THE STRIPED BUG. This enemy to all vines will soon commence its ravages. They may be kept at bay by a few sprays of lime water, or a few drops of oil of turpentine.

THE BARK BORER. This enemy to all vines will soon commence its ravages. They may be kept at bay by a few sprays of lime water, or a few drops of oil of turpentine.

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The Maine Farmer

Augusta, Thursday, June 7, 1866.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.
\$2.00 in advance, or \$2.50 if paid within
three months of the date of Subscription.

*These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be credit ed in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money sent him.

Every subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us the name of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

NOTICES.

Mr. JAMES STRACHAN is now on a collecting and canvassing tour in Waldo County.

Mr. V. DAWLISH will with subscribers in York County during the month of June.

The Power of Memory.

One of the faculties common to us all is that of memory. So common, and yet so varied are its ples nesses that attention has been paid to the laws by which it is governed more than to any other faculty, and probably more is known about it in consequence. What serves as mere instinct in the lower animals is called memory in man, though it is perhaps impossible to form a dividing line between them. The faculty is not confined to man. The elephant that has received an insult will long remember it, and be avenged on his enemy though days may elapse before he may have the opportunity. The dog not only remembers, but seems to have the power of drawing conclusions. We well remember a dog that was not allowed to go to market some miles distant from his master, but when he saw the market wagon loading, he would steal away a mile ahead and keep at a respectful distance till he concluded he was not to be sent back, when he would gradually approach his master as if desirous of becoming reconciled to him.

The power we derive from memory is probably stronger from the sense of sight than anything else. The child visits a menagerie for the first time in his life. He sees the elephant, the monkeys and other animals, and he never forgets what he sees. No menagerie he visits afterwards will ever have such an impression. This is why our best educators make use of maps, charts, pictures, and models of everything in their power, because the sense of sight serves to aid the powers of memory. We can retain the memory of what we see better than what we taste, smell or hear. This faculty differs greatly in different individuals, though it is by no means a rare index of high intellectual power. Some persons of very weak intellect have the power of committing to memory with great facility, of remembering every cat and dog, and horse and child in town, and yet is almost entirely destitute of correct judgment. Special attention greatly improves the memory. We recently heard a naturalist remark that he, by the wrinkles on a small shell no larger than a pin head, tell whether it belonged in Georgia or Maine, and yet he could not tell an horse from another in his own neighborhood. This faculty is especially to be cultivated in youth. Children learn everything they see and hear with great facility. Hence the alphabet of nature is before them, and they render themselves familiar with new objects every day, and remember them after wards. As age comes on, this faculty of committing to memory becomes impaired. Hence youth is allotted as the time for improvement. But there is one point worthy of special attention here. If we had two schools, one of pupils under twenty years of age, and another of fifty years of age, we could teach general principles better to the older classes. They can generalize, while the youth can particularize with the best advantage. We have sometimes given lectures on scientific topics, and we never fail to impress upon the aged the importance of paying attention to new and scientific terms. With this idea he never fails to be interested, but if he steps and gambols over new terms in science he becomes disgusted. Youth is the time to commit to memory, age the time to draw conclusions. Youth should be the time for cultivating this important faculty, though we earnestly protest against using it unconnected with ideas. If you want to make a stupid boy, let him commit to memory without knowing what it is for, and you accomplish your object in the shortest possible manner. We believe no age is too great to be a learner in something useful or good. Just as young as ideas are presented so as to be comprehended, the minds of most men even at an advanced age, are ready and eager to receive them. It is a solace in old age as well as a gratification in youth to be able to comprehend something now. Such is our nature.

HOME AT DEER ISLE. A murderous assault was made by Charles A. Hooper, a merchant of Deer Isle, on Wednesday last, upon Capt. John Collins, Jr., master of packet Eclipse. Capt. Collins received four wounds, two in the form arm, one in the shoulder and a slight wound in the neck. Two muscles, and one artery of the form arm were severely entangled. Hooper was arrested and held to bail in the sum of \$5000, but afterwards about one hundred citizens took charge of him, and after pinning to his back a placard, with the words, "This is the assassin," escorted him with drum and fife and the tolling of the church bells, to the ferry, telling him never to set his foot on the island again.

There has been considerable religious interest manifested in the different denominations in this city the present spring, and the Union prayer meetings which have been observed alternately at the different churches, have been well attended and productive of the best results.

On Sunday of the present week seven persons united with the 21 Baptist church—Rev. Mr. Penney's—and the interest continues unabated, especially among the young men and women. Meetings will be held this week on Tuesday evening in the Congregational chapel, and on Thursday evening at the First Baptist church. All are invited to attend.

REIMBURSEMENT OF THE WAR DEBTS OF THE LOYAL STATES. Mr. Blaine, Chairman of the Select Committee on the War Debts of the Loyal States, on Thursday last, reported his bill reimbursing the same for expenses incurred in raising troops for the service of the Government, and on his motion the bill was recommitted, with authority to report the same at the next session. This action was taken after full conference with the leading friends of the measure, in order to prevent any collision between its supporters and the advocates of the bill equalizing the bounties of soldiers.

Mr. Charles Cowell of Belgrade, recently sold a steamer to Messrs. Cony & Farrar of this city, that weighed 3018 lbs. This firm is constantly paying the highest market price for beef, pork, lamb, mutton and poultry, and are dispensing it from their market house, foot of Oak Street, to our hungry citizens, at a small advance from cost. They also have on hand a variety of fresh vegetables and fruits, and deliver goods promptly in any part of the city.

Mr. Cony, President of the Maine Freedmen's Society, has called a meeting of that Association at the Executive Apartments in the State Capitol at Augusta, on Wednesday, June 27th, at five o'clock P. M., to take measures to secure greater efficiency and more general interest in the operations of the Society in this State. An early interest in the cause of the Freedmen is invited to attend.

THE PORTLAND ARGUS states that as the freight train on the Portland and Kennebunk R. R. was slowly passing the depot at Morrill's Corner Monday morning, one of the cars, owing to a slight defect in a rail, got off the track and resulted in getting two others off, wading serious injury to another, all loaded freight cars. The smash was quite serious, but no one was injured.

NEW BUILDING. Joseph Anthony, Esq., is making active preparations to erect a building on the corner of Water Street and Market Square, on the site of the former, to be used in connection with the exhibition of the New England Agricultural Society.

A correspondent in Grahan's writes us that a sheep belonging to one of his neighbors recently dropped a lamb which had two bodies, eight legs, one head and one ear.

The Exhibition of the Aroostook Agricultural Society will be held at Houlton, on the 26th and 27th of September next.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Editor's Table.

PHYSIOTHERAPY OF MARRIAGE. By Dr. William A. Alcott, Boston: Dinsmore & Company. Pp. 260. Price \$2.

We are heartily glad to see a new edition of this book, as it is upon a subject of vital importance, and is treated in a manner calculated to arrest and receive the attention and commendation of every parent in the land. They should read it and place it in the hands of their children at a suitable age, as the most proper way of educating them upon subjects of the greatest importance to their health and happiness. It is written in plain language, and with a spirit of chirurgical exactitude, and there is nothing in the book of objectionable to its being read and studied by all.

CHARLES AGAINST THE FEDERATION'S BUREAU. An order has been issued for the arrest of certain officers with the Freedmen's Bureau in North Carolina on the charge of being engaged in cultivating plantations on their own account. The charges were made by General Fullerton and Steadman. The order was issued on the 16th, to Gen. Howard, directing him at once to relieve and order under arrest the following officers: General Whittlesey, Majors Mann and Wickham, Captain Steadman, Wheeler and Rosecrans, Dr. Rugh, Chaplain Glavis and Fitz, and General Rev. James, Winthrop Tappan, Mr. Boyden, Mr. Potter, Mr. Brook and Mr. Rosecrans. They were directed to report to Gen. Rager, and await further orders.

In the meantime notice of the proposed invasion has been received by the Canadian authorities, the volunteer militia of that Province were called out, several regiments of regular troops were dispatched to the scene of action, and warlike preparations were being actively pushed forward for the defence of the frontier.

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In the midst of the excitement and confusion it is almost impossible to gather from the telegraphic despatch what has actually occurred or how formidable the invasion has become. If half the statements made by the Canadian authorities are to be believed, the invasion of the United States by the Fenians is rapidly subduing everywhere. All the exposed points are fully prepared for any emergency, and awaiting reinforcements.

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SASE MARCH: or Keats and Falcone. A novel. By the author of "Gay Livingston." New York: Harper & Brothers. Price 50 cents.

This story appears to be the sixth and last volume of the Army and Navy Series—will be eagerly sought for by all who are acquainted with the previous volumes, and have followed the fortunes of the hero through his career as "Sailor Boy" and "Yankee Midship." Few writers for youth are so popular as Mr. Adams, and this story, like the former ones of the series, enforces lesson of virtue and patriotism, and their reading will have much to do in forming a bright character of the boy of our country.

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An amendment was agreed to that this bill shall not authorize the construction of any new roads without the consent of the States.

An amendment was agreed to that Congress have the power to alter or repeal the law at any time.

HOUSE. Mr. STEPHENS of Pennsylvania moved to strike out the pending amendment to the Constitution, they shall be reserved to their political rights.

Mr. STEPHENS of Pennsylvania moved to strike out the clause in the Constitution relating to slavery by inserting the clause to the Constitution relating to the abolition of slavery.

The joint resolution, relative to inter-State communication, was taken up.

An amendment was adopted that this bill shall not authorize the construction of any new roads without the consent of the States.

An amendment was agreed to that Congress have the power to alter or repeal the law at any time.

HOUSE. Mr. STEPHENS of Pennsylvania moved to strike out the clause in the Constitution relating to the abolition of slavery.

The bill, as amended, enforces and amends the Freedmen's Bureau bill came up as the first business in order in the morning hour.

The first question was on the amendment of Mr. STEPHENS, to strike out the clause in the 7th section the following for the purpose of education, "and to the erection of buildings for the purpose of education," and down to the end of the section, and insert in lieu thereof the words, "and shall hire or provide by the lease of buildings for the purpose of education whenever such association shall be formed to instruct the colored population in the arts and means of instruction and furnish such protection as may be required for the safe conduct of such schools."

The amendment was agreed to.

NEW BOOK BY GAIL HAMILTON. Ticknor & Fields announce as in press a new volume by this popular author, specially adapted to warm weather reading, and bearing the delightful title of "SUMMER REST."

The author of "Gay Livingston" speaks in the highest terms as "a stronger, healthier, and in every respect a more satisfactory" work than any of the author's previous publications. Sold in this city by G. A. Barker & Co., No. 9 Bridge Street, Water street.

A THOUSAND A YEAR. By Mrs. E. M. Bruce. Boston: Lee & Shepard. 1866. Price \$1.25.

A domestic story of great beauty and power, being the narrative of the experience of a country clergyman who accepts the pastorate of a city parish and a salary of "one thousand a year."

The book is one of the newest issued for the year, and will find hosts of readers.

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The amendment was agreed to.

THE FEDERATION'S BUREAU. An order has been issued for the arrest of certain officers with the Freedmen's Bureau and a battle will take place to-morrow.

A special despatch from Toronto says: "At 4 o'clock Fenians were within six miles of Chippewa. Everybody expects a battle to-night."

Montreal, June 1. The greatest enthusiasm and excitement prevails among the public. The Fenians across the river, and the capture of Gen. Scott is expected to-morrow.

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